

THE RAVE CULTURE & DESIGNER DRUGS

THE IMPACT ON THE DEPARTMENT
OF THE NAVY



**The “Rave” scene
began as a subculture
in England circa 1980,
and has since migrated
into mainstream
culture throughout the
United States.**



Rave Culture In The United States Is Characterized By:

- 2 Types of Raves
 - ◊ secretive: warehouses, deserts, woods, etc.
 - ▣ commercialized: typically held in established clubs
- Extremely loud “techno” music/dancing
- Lighting and visual stimuli: lasers, video screens, etc...
- 14-25 age group
- Alcohol-free environment
- Escapist culture
- All-night events
- Designer drugs: bought, sold, consumed



Rave Paraphernalia_

- Water bottles
- Light sticks
- Pacifiers
- Bags of small candies/breath mints
- Eye-drop bottles
- Dust masks/Vicks Vapo-Rub
- Caffeinated beverages/over the counter stimulants



Rave Paraphernalia Defined

- ▣ **Water bottles** -- Ecstasy the most widely used drug associated with raves causes dehydration and increases body temperature.
- ▣ **Light sticks** -- These are used to enhance the visual experience while on the drugs (individuals see “trails” of light)
- ▣ **Pacifiers** -- Rave drugs tend to cause the user to grind their teeth, the pacifier prevents this.
- ▣ **Bags of small candies and breath mints** -- The drugs intended for sale are often stored in these bags.
- ▣ **Eye drop bottles** -- These are used to store the liquid form of the drugs.
- ▣ **Dust mask and Vicks Vapo-Rub** -- These are combined to enhance the effects of the designer drugs. The Vicks is placed under the nose the the mask is used to keep the rub from dissipating.
- ▣ **Caffeinated beverages/stimulants** -- These help with exhaustion caused by the dancing and stimulant effect of the drugs.



Designer Drugs Affiliated With Raves:

- Ecstasy
- LSD
- Ketamine
- GHB
- Rohypnol
- Nitrous Oxide



As with all drugs, the amount used combined with the mental state of the user and the setting in which it is consumed, will determine the effect of the chemical.

The higher the dose the more pronounced and more prolonged the effects



ECSTASY (MDMA)

(Methylenedioxymethamphetamine)

- **Street names:** E, X, XTC, rolling, clarity, essence, Adam, go, disco biscuit, crystal, hug drug
- **Over-sensitivity to sensory stimuli**
- **Overall feeling of euphoria**
- **Dehydration/hyperthermic**
- **Insomnia**
- **Hallucinogenic**
- **Stimulant**
- **Appetite suppressant**
- **Dilated pupils**





144 Ecstasy (MDMA) Tablets
photographer unknown



LSD

(Lysergic Acid Diethylamide)

- **Street names: sold under more than 80 names; acid, blotter, cid, doses, trips, hits, tabs, dope**
- **Distorted and intensified sensory input**
- **Powerful hallucinogenic**
- **Delusions/paranoia**
- **Strong effect on mood and emotion**
- **Dilated pupils**
- **Raised: body temp., heartbeat, blood pressure**
- **Facial flushing/profuse perspiration**
- **Blurred vision**
- **Dizziness and nausea**
- **Synesthesia- “hearing colors” or “seeing sounds”**



KETAMINE

(Ketamine Hydrochloride)

- ▣ **Street names: special K, K, kit kat, cat valium, jet, super acid, honey oil, green, super C**
- ▣ **Powerful anesthetic**
- ▣ **Overtly hallucinatory**
- ▣ **Muscle relaxation to complete muscle loss**
- ▣ **Mild sedative to loss of conscience**
- ▣ **Hypnotic**
- ▣ **Partial amnesia**
- ▣ **Detached, distant, and estranged from surroundings**
- ▣ **Described as similar to drunkenness only stronger**



GHB

(Gamma-Hydroxybutyrate)

- **Street names: liquid X, liquid E, G, Georgia home boy, goop, gamma-oh, grievous bodily harm**
- **Powerful sedative**
- **Produces euphoric and psychedelic hallucinatory states**
- **Stimulates muscle growth**
- **Adverse effects: drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, severe respiratory depression, unconsciousness, seizures, coma, death**
- **Induces a reduced level of consciousness**
- **Memory loss**



ROHYPNOL

(Flunitrazepam)

- **Street names: roofies, R-2, Mexican valium, rophies, rope, roaches, forget me drug, circles**
- **Powerful anesthetic**
- **Sedation to loss of consciousness**
- **Muscle relaxation to complete loss of muscle control**
- **Reduction in anxiety**
- **Prevention of convulsions**
- **Partial amnesia**
- **Adverse effects: drowsiness, dizziness, loss of motor control, lack of coordination, slurred speech, confusion, respiratory depression**
- **Impairs cognitive and psychomotor functions**
- **Alcohol and Rohypnol potentiate each other's toxicity**



NITROUS OXIDE (N₂O)

- ▣ **Disorientation**
- ▣ **Fixated vision**
- ▣ **Throbbing or pulsating auditory hallucinations**
- ▣ **Similarly pulsating visual hallucination**
- ▣ **Increased pain threshold**
- ▣ **Deeper mental connections**
- ▣ **Weak anaesthetic**
- ▣ **Bacteriostatic (destroys bacteria)**
- ▣ **Light use is not hazardous**

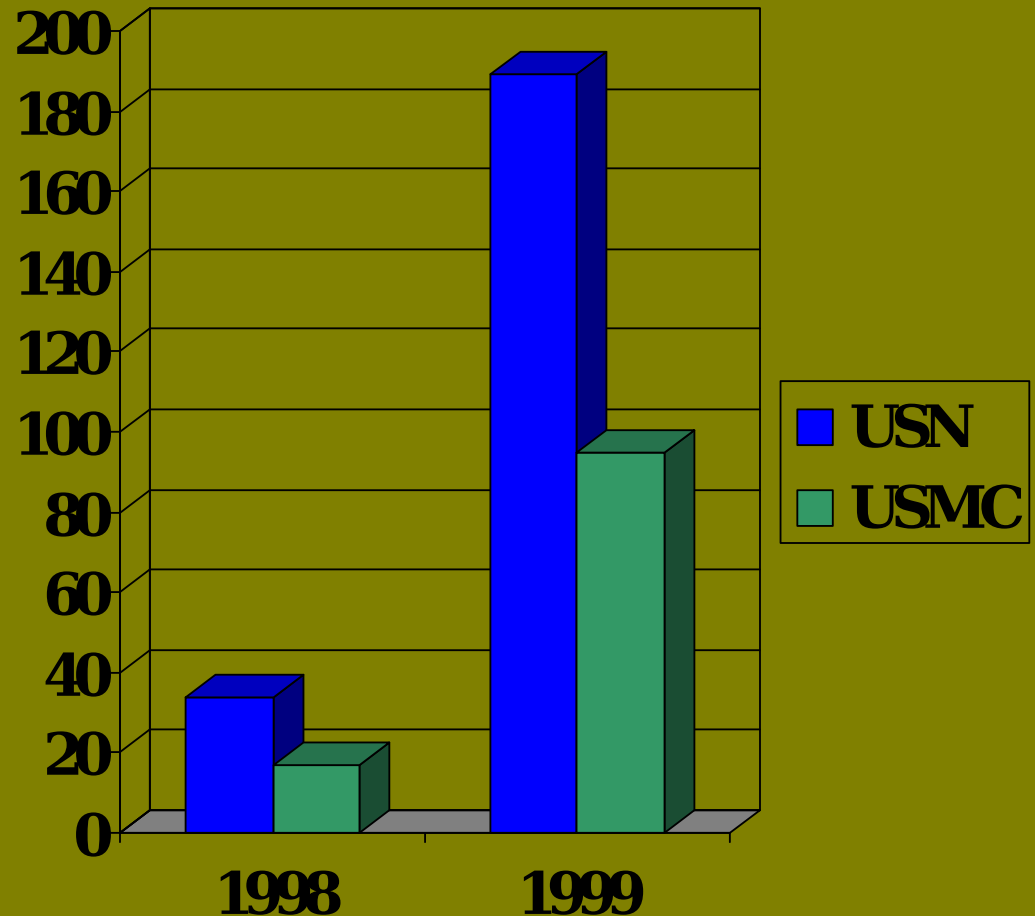


**Since 1998 there has
been a 556% increase in
positive urinalysis results
for ecstasy (MDMA)
within the Department of
the Navy.**



MDMA (Ecstasy)____ Positive Samples

- 1998 to 1999:
- Percent increase for the USN= 556% (34 to 189)
- Percent increase for the USMC= 559% (17 to 95)



Urinalysis Positives Per Year

	1998		1999	
	USN	USMC	USN	USMC
MDMA	34	17	189	95
METH	422	411	328	205
LSD	47	53	126	81

Young Military Personnel And The Rave Scene: A Dangerous Combination

- **Lonely 18 year old kids away from home**
- **Underage access to Rave clubs/parties due to lack of alcohol**
- **Attraction to the “love drugs”**
- **Steady incomes and the open sale of drugs**
- **Knowledge of the detection deficiencies for designer drugs**
- **Belief that designer drugs are not dangerous**



Military/DOD Drug Testing Program

- **Tests for 8 drug classes:**
- **Cannabinoids (marijuana, hashhish)**
- **Cocaine**
- **Opiates (heroin, morphine, codeine)**
- **Amphetamines (methamphetamine, MDA, MDMA, MDEA)**
- **PCP**
- **LSD**
- **Barbiturates (seco-, pheno-, butalbital)**
- **Steroids**



- **Tests active duty military, military entrance processing station (MEPS), recruits, reserve, national guard**
- **\$40M per year testing program**
- **Random testing- each service member is tested approximately 2 times per year; minimum average testing frequency is 1 random test per year**
- **Testing schedule is inadequate to effectively detect designer drugs and requires an education process for field level commanders**



**Since 1994, there
have been
approximately 1,600
NCIS cases
involving designer
drugs.**



**NCIS currently has
investigations and
operations targeting
the use, possession,
purchase and sale of
designer drugs in
virtually every
CONUS Navy and
Marine Corps facility.**



NCIS

Investigations/Operations

- **S/Marriott, Toby/LCPL USMC -
Camp Pendleton, CA**
- **S/Brunelle, Steven John/SA USN -
Great Lakes, IL**
- **Navy Housing Operation - Mayport,
FL**
- **Joint Operation With Seattle PD-
Everett, WA**



S/Marriott, Toby/LCPL USMC

- Camp Pendleton

- ▣ **15MAR00, NCISRA Camp Pendleton initiates an investigation against S/Marriott identified as a dealer of MDMA**
- ▣ **CW and NCIS UCA effect 3 controlled buys of MDMA**
- ▣ **2 USMC co-subjects identified**
- ▣ **1 co-subject sells 101 MDMA pills**
- ▣ **Seizures:**
 - ◊ **166 ecstasy pills.....**
 - \$3,200.00**



S/Brunelle, Steven John/SA USN - Great Lakes, IL

- **02Jun00, NCISRA Great Lakes initiates an investigation against S/Brunelle and X/Morrow identified as dealers of MDMA**
- **CW provided information on a planned buy between subjects and civilian dealer**
- **S/Brunelle admitted to the purchase of 200 ecstasy pills of which 90 were said to be given to X/Morrow**
- **Permissive search of BEQ room results in ecstasy seizure**
- **Seizures**
 - **105 ecstasy pills.....\$3,675.00**

**NOTE: Operation is still in early
phase**



Navy Housing Operation - Mayport, FL

- ▣ **29DEC99, Joint NCIS/DEA/JSO/FDLE drug Op targeting navy housing**
- ▣ **7 NCIS CW's utilized to effect controlled buys**
- ▣ **30 suspects identified: one adult DoD dependent, one non-DoD civilian residing in base housing, and six non DoD civilians delivering drugs to the base housing.**
- ▣ **Seizures:**
 - ◊ **27,819 ecstasy pills\$780,300.00**
 - ▣ **34 grams of cocaine.....\$1,500.00**
 - ▣ **500 grams of marijuana.....\$1,500.00**
 - ▣ **3 vehicles.....\$75,000.00**
 - ▣ **clandestine lab.....\$60,000.00**
 - » **Total\$913,300.00**



Designer drugs such as *Ecstasy* are viewed as social, non-threatening, yet all have the potential to negatively impact readiness and quality of life within the Department of the Navy.



QUESTIONS?



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